

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
DIVISION OF LIVESTOCK DISEASE CONTROL

REPORT

(for six months)

January 1, 1944 - June 30, 1944



REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF LIVESTOCK DISEASE CONTROL  
FOR SIX MONTHS

JANUARY 1, 1944 - JUNE 30, 1944

For the purpose, in the future, of complying with Section 32 of Chapter 499, Acts of 1939, i.e., that reports of departments shall be made on the basis of the fiscal year of the Commonwealth, the following report of the Division of Livestock Disease Control is herewith submitted for the period January 1, 1944 to July 1, 1944, the beginning of the fiscal year, July 1, 1944 - June 30, 1945.

On March 29, 1944 Harrie W. Peirce, M.D.V. succeeded James DeNormandie as Director of the Division of Livestock Disease Control. Dr. Peirce, Chief Veterinary Health Officer of the division since the year 1927, was graduated from Harvard University School of Veterinary Medicine in 1900 and entered the employ of the Commonwealth in animal disease control work in the year 1907.

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Veterinarians employed full time on a per diem basis as Agents of the Division, and veterinarians connected with the United States Bureau of Animal Industry who are engaged in tuberculosis eradication work in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts are hereby commended for the excellent service they have rendered in maintaining the tuberculosis-free accredited herd status of the Commonwealth, namely, less than 1/2 of 1% infection.

\* \* \* \* \*

The interest that owners of cattle are taking in vaccination of young stock between the ages of four months and breeding age (usually 18 to 20 months) for prevention of brucellosis, at time of the periodic tuberculin test and without cost to the owner, is indicated by the requests which are received for this service and by the number of such animals vaccinated during the period covered by the report. (See Page 12)

\* \* \* \* \*

Next to brucellosis in importance to owners of dairy herds is the control and prevention of mastitis, a disease to which,



until recently, comparatively little attention has been given by any department of the Commonwealth. As mastitis differs in most respects from other types of communicable animal diseases, meetings, arranged through County Agents, dairy groups, etc., have been held in practically every section of the Commonwealth, at which meetings mastitis as a disease was discussed and the brucellosis program presented and explained by Dr. W. S. Stone, Assistant Director of the Division. That meetings of this kind are appreciated was shown by the interest taken by those present and the discussions which followed.

\* \* \* \* \*

The increase of "no visible lesions" of tuberculosis reports received following the slaughter of animals declared as reactors to the tuberculin test, 95% of which slaughter and postmortem examinations are conducted under Federal veterinary supervision, is of great concern to all engaged in bovine tuberculosis eradication as well as to owners of such cattle.

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Rabies, which as a disease of domestic animals, has for many years been of major importance to the Division, has caused little concern during the six months covered by this report as not a single case has been reported during that period.

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Following are tables which show in detail the work of the Division of Livestock Disease Control for the six months period, January 1, 1944 to July 1, 1944, covered by this report.

Respectfully submitted,

*Harrie W. Peirce*  
Harrie W. Peirce, M.D.V.  
Director



## BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

There were 9,286 herd tests, 150,667 animal tests with 385 reactors, or 25/100 of 1% reactors, slightly higher than the 21/100 of 1% for the thirteen months period ending December 31, 1943.

Of the 385 reactors, 203, or 52.7% were reported as "no visible lesions" of tuberculosis at time of slaughter as compared with 27.4% in 1943.

The carcasses of 7 head of reactor cattle were condemned as unfit for food purposes due to "generalized" tuberculosis.

Following is a summary of tuberculin testing by veterinarians for the six months period from January 1, 1944 through June 30, 1944:

	<u>Herds</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>Reactors</u>
Veterinarians paid by the State on a salary basis	2,323	33,925	45
Veterinarians paid by the State on a per diem basis	5,301	85,506	230
Veterinarians paid by the owners	34	1,519	0
Veterinarians paid by the Federal Government	<u>1,628</u> 9,286	<u>29,717</u> 150,667	<u>110</u> 385



TUBERCULIN TESTING BY MONTHS

	FIRST TESTS										RETESTS										TOTALS						
	CLEAN				WITH REACTORS						CLEAN				WITH REACTORS												
1944	Hrd	Pb	Gd	Tot	Hrd	Pb	Gd	Tot	Pb	Gd	R	Hrd	Pb	Bd	Tot	Hrd	Pb	Gd	Tot	Pb	Gd	R	Hrd	Pb	Gd	Tot	R
January	99	42	385	427	1		2	2		1	1	1349	3261	20533	23794	24	102	1126	1228	8	39	47	1473	3405	22046	25451	48
February	76	34	482	516	2	1	6	7		2	2	1591	3314	23769	27033	26	36	884	920	5	78	83	1645	3385	22081	28466	85
March	94	49	355	404	1	3	12	16	1		1	1633	3313	25121	28434	34	107	1045	1152	7	82	89	1762	3472	26534	30006	90
April	91	87	413	500								1422	2866	21916	24792	34	29	1509	1533	4	115	119	1547	2982	23838	26820	119
May	149	87	661	748								1703	3392	25142	28534	16	351	729	1080	3	26	29	1868	8830	26532	30362	29
June	111	29	290	319								822	719	8364	9083	8	4	156	160		14	14	941	752	9810	9562	14
	620				4							8520				142	629						9286				
		328				4							16865				629							17826			
			2586				21							124785				5449							132,841		
				2914				25						141,650					6078							150,667	
									1												27						
										3												354					
											4											381					385



# TUBERCULIN TESTING BY COUNTIES

	FIRST TESTS											RETESTS											TOTALS				
	CLEAN				WITH REACTORS							CLEAN				WITH REACTORS											
1944	Hrd	Pb	Gd	Tot	Hrd	Pb	Gd	Tot	PbGd	R	Hrd	Pb	Gd	Tot	Hrd	Pb	Gd	Tot	Pb	Gd	R	Hrd	Pb	Gd	Tot	R	
Barnstable	10		20	20							127	79	547	626	1		21	21		1	1	138	79	588	667	1	
Berkshire	51	49	330	379	2		4	4		2	2	679	2201	14407	14608	7	6	313	319	1	28	29	739	2256	15054	17310	31
Bristol	58	42	213	255							812	1614	13537	15171	19	10	663	673		85	85	889	1666	14432	16099	85	
Dukes																											
Essex	65	124	283	407	1	3	13	16	1	1	1	757	2101	9151	11252	16	156	1020	1196	6	69	75	839	2384	10487	12871	76
Franklin	45	33	267	300								919	1096	12610	13706							964	1129	12877	14006		
Hampden	60	4	175	179								616	874	6925	7799	1	22	33	33		2	2	677	878	7133	8011	2
Hampshire	37	6	195	201								1007	1853	14040	15893	4		105	105		7	7	1048	1859	14340	16199	7
Middlesex	74	19	280	299								855	2089	12310	14399	12		380	380		39	39	941	2108	12970	15078	39
Nantucket																											
Norfolk	50	19	108	127								430	758	6212	6970	18	85	934	919	4	35	39	478	862	7154	8016	39
Plymouth	32	20	92	112	1	1	4	5		1	1	586	825	6688	7513	19	53	749	782	4	37	41	638	879	7533	8412	42
Suffolk												9	50	13	63	2	66	69	135	3	4	7	11	116	82	198	7
Worcester	138	12	623	635								1723	3325	23325	31650	43	273	1242	1515	9	47	56	1904	3610	30190	35300	56
	620	328	2586	2914	4	4	21	25				9520	16865	124795	141650	142	629	5419	6078				9286	17826	132341	150667	385



APPRAISALS

1944	PUREBREDS			GRADES			TOTAL		
	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE
January	8	\$2,175.00	\$271.88	40	\$7,345.00	\$183.63	48	\$9,520.00	\$198.33
February	5	1,550.00	310.00	80	13,510.00	168.87	85	15,060.00	177.17
March	8	2,730.00	341.25	82	17,625.00	214.93	90	20,355.00	226.16
April	4	1,000.00	250.00	115	20,965.00	182.30	119	21,965.00	184.58
May	3	875.00	291.67	26	5,435.00	209.03	29	6,310.00	217.58
June				14	2,455.00	175.36	14	2,455.00	175.35
Total	28	\$8,330.00	\$297.50	357	\$67,335.00	\$188.61	385	\$75,665.00	\$196.53

SALVAGE

1944	PUREBREDS			GRADES			TOTAL		
	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE
January	8	\$560.66	\$70.08	40	\$2,559.85	\$63.99	48	\$3,120.51	\$65.01
February	5	329.96	65.99	80	4,680.64	58.50	85	5,010.60	58.94
March	8	483.19	60.39	82	6,148.20	74.97	90	6,631.39	73.68
April	4	192.20	48.05	115	8,543.60	74.29	119	8,735.80	73.41
May	3	308.35	102.78	26	1,966.30	75.62	29	2,274.65	78.43
June				14	961.05	68.64	14	961.05	68.64
Total	28	\$1,874.36	\$66.94	357	\$24,859.64	\$69.63	385	\$26,734.00	\$69.43

INDEMNITY

1944	PUREBREDS			GRADES			TOTAL		
	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE	HEAD	AMOUNT	AVERAGE
January	8	\$536.41	\$67.05	40	\$1,874.34	\$46.85	48	\$2,410.75	\$50.22
February	5	375.00	75.00	80	3,455.71	43.19	85	3,830.71	45.06
March	8	600.00	75.00	82	3,967.97	48.39	90	4,567.97	50.75
April	4	289.62	72.40	115	4,941.74	42.97	119	5,231.36	43.96
May	3	225.00	75.00	26	1,114.85	42.87	29	1,339.85	46.20
June				14	647.08	46.22	14	647.08	46.22
Total	28	\$2,026.03	\$72.35	357	\$16,001.69	\$44.82	385	\$18,027.72	\$46.82



## COUNTY CENSUS AND INFECTION

(JUNE 30, 1944)

County	Herds	Head	Infection		
			Herds	Head	Reactors
Barnstable	392	1,507	1	21	1
Berkshire	1,872	27,005	1	55	4
Bristol	2,152	23,598	7	122	35
Dukes	113	524	-	-	-
Essex	1,297	15,112	7	634	12
Franklin	1,796	21,776	-	-	-
Hampden	1,655	13,865	-	-	-
Hampshire	1,753	20,449	2	47	5
Middlesex	2,173	23,429	5	179	8
Nantucket	37	367	-	-	-
Norfolk	940	9,555	5	327	17
Plymouth	1,248	11,476	3	180	4
Suffolk	9	132	1	69	4
Worcester	4,215	50,272	15	886	31
Total	19,652	219,067	47	2,520	121

Fifty per cent (50%) of the herds, or nine thousand eight hundred fifty-three (9,853) and eight per cent (8%) of the cattle on seventeen thousand six hundred (17,600) were in herds of three head of cattle or less.



# TUBERCULIN TESTING OF GOATS

There were nine (9) goats tuberculin tested under supervision of this Division from January 1, 1944 through June 30, 1944.



## INTERSTATE RECEIPTS OF CATTLE

January 1, 1944 - June 30, 1944

One thousand three hundred twenty-one (1,321) permits were issued covering seven thousand nine hundred seventy-four (7,974) head of dairy and breeding cattle (other than those received at Brighton) and three thousand eight hundred seventy-six (3,876) head for immediate slaughter.

Dairy and breeding cattle imported originated as follows:

	On Permit	At Brighton		On Permit	At Brighton
Canada	2,275		New Jersey	13	
Connecticut	514		New York	464	
Illinois	29		Ohio	29	
Indiana	2		Pennsylvania	48	
Maine	208	1,097	Rhode Island	197	6
Maryland	12		Vermont	2,985	206
Michigan	2		Wisconsin	398	
Minnesota	178		Wyoming	80	
New Hampshire	540	272			
				<u>7,974</u>	<u>1,581</u>

Of the 2,985 cattle recorded from Vermont 1, 155 originated in Canada; of the 514 from Connecticut 50 originated in Canada; and of the 197 recorded from Rhode Island 25 originated in Canada, making a total of 3,505 Canadian cattle received.

Beef cattle imported on permit originated as follows:

Connecticut	60	New Hampshire	270	
Illinois	2,512	New York	120	
Indiana	26	Rhode Island	751	
Minnesota	105	Vermont	<u>32</u>	
				3,876



## QUARANTINE STATION AT BRIGHTON

	Total Receipts	Released On Papers	Released after Test	Killed	Returned
Maine	1,097	1,094	3	-	-
New Hampshire	272	272	-	-	-
Rhode Island	6	6	-	-	-
Vermont	206	206	-	-	-
Total	1,581	1,578	3	-	-
Massachusetts	453	452	-	-	1
	2,034	2,030	3	-	1

Of the 1,581 interstate cattle received and released 369 were exported to Rhode Island, 8 to Connecticut.

## Diseased cattle at Brighton for slaughter:

	T. B. Reactors	T. B. Suspects	Bang's Reactors	Actinomycosis	Johne's Disease
Maine	-	-	239	-	-
New Hampshire	29	-	451	-	-
Rhode Island	25	-	17	-	-
Massachusetts	336	222	-	1	4
Total	390	222	707	1	4

These cattle are checked, tagged and released to slaughtering establishments on permits.

All trucks conveying diseased cattle were cleaned and disinfected, two hundred seventy-five (275) in number. The sales barn is cleaned and disinfected regularly.

As has been customary for many years vaccination of cattle arriving at the quarantine station for prevention of shipping fever is done upon request of the owners, for which a nominal fee is collected to cover the cost of the biologic used. Three hundred ninety (390) cattle were vaccinated, for which a total of \$58.50 was collected.



## EXPORTS

Interstate certificates of health were issued on one thousand three hundred fourteen (1,314) head of cattle exported to other states as follows:

<u>Destination</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Head</u>
Alabama	1	New York	65
Arizona	1	North Carolina	4
California	3	New Jersey	47
Connecticut	416	Nebraska	1
Colorado	1	Ohio	15
Costa Rica	1	Oklahoma	1
Georgia	1	Ontario	2
Idaho	2	Pennsylvania	12
Illinois	10	Quebec	3
Indiana	30	Rhode Island	293
Iowa	1	South Carolina	1
Maine	46	Texas	2
Maryland	12	Vermont	91
Michigan	12	Virginia	6
Minnesota	4	Washington	4
Missouri	3	West Virginia	2
Mississippi	2	Wisconsin	10
New Hampshire	279		
		Total	<u>1,314</u>

In addition to the above the following were shipped direct from the Quarantine Station at Brighton:

369 to Rhode Island; 8 to Connecticut.



## BRUCELLOSIS

January 1, 1944 - June 30, 1944

An analysis of the blood samples submitted to the laboratory is as follows:

	Negative	Positive	Doubtful	Unsatisfactory*	Total
Cattle	11,381	1,120	1,227	307	14,035
Goats	28			39	67
Swine	5				5
	11,414	1,120	1,227	346	14,107

\* hemolyzed, insufficient, containers broken.

Accredited Herds:

Regular accredited herds	50
Vaccinated accredited herds	37

Cattle in regular accredited herds	2,590
Cattle in vaccinated accredited herds	2,049

Vaccination at time of the tuberculin test for the six months from January 1, 1944 through June 30, 1944 was conducted as follows:

County	Herds	Head
Berkshire	251	1,615
Bristol	275	725
Essex	212	808
Franklin	368	1,525
Hampden	246	875
Hampshire	247	985
Middlesex	195	832
Norfolk	110	364
Plymouth	80	279
Worcester	545	2,280
Total	2,529	10,288



### LICENSED DEALERS IN BOVINE ANIMALS

Under the provisions of Chapter 607, Acts of 1941, a total of nine thousand seven hundred twenty-two (9,722) dairy cattle and one thousand five hundred seventy-one (1,571) beef cattle were reported by licensed dealers in bovine animals as purchased and sold during the six months period of this report.



## RABIES

The heads of fifty-nine (59) dogs, eleven (11) cats, one (1) fox and one (1) pig were received at the Wassermann Laboratory for examination. Of this number seventy-one (71) were reported negative, one (1) as questionable.

	SHOWING SYMPTOMS			CONTACTS				BITE CASES				TOTAL
	Positive	Negative	Questionable	Released	Killed or Died - No Symptoms	Killed - Positive	Pending	Released	Killed - No Examination	Killed - Negative	Pending	
From 1943												
January			1					135				135
February								378	1	9		389
March								588		6		594
April								567	1	13		581
May								831	2	14		847
June								1172		15		1187
								402	1	14	482	899
			1					4073	5	71	482	4632

Animals Involved

Cats								19		11		30
Dogs			1					4052	5	58	482	4598
Fox										1		1
Horses								2				2
Swine										1		1
			1					4073	5	71	482	4632



## MISCELLANEOUS DISEASES

Blackleg: There were no reports of death from this disease. Preventive vaccination was given to young cattle as follows: Berkshire, sixty-five (65) premises, one thousand nineteen (1,019) head; Franklin, seventeen (17) premises, one hundred five (105) head; Hampden, twenty-three (23) premises, two hundred ten (210) head; Hampshire, fifty-nine (59) premises, five hundred seventy-eight (578) head; Middlesex, nine (9) premises, fifty-five (55) head; and Worcester, forty-two (42) premises, three hundred eighty-five (385) head.

Johne's Disease: Four (4) cases were reported in one herd in Worcester County, one (1) on clinical symptoms, three (3) as reactors to the Johnin test; all four (4) were slaughtered and diagnosis confirmed by laboratory of the United States Bureau of Animal Industry.

Swine Diseases: Reports of erysipelas, hog cholera and allied diseases received were investigated, the division cooperating with owners in an advisory capacity only.

Mastitis: Reports in increasing number were received.



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

(for the fiscal year)

July 1, 1943 - June 30, 1944

<u>Appropriation Classification</u>	<u>Appropriation Expenditure</u>	
Director's Salary . . . . .	\$4,000.00	
Transferred (Chapter 170, Acts of 1943) . . . . .	360.00	\$4,360.00    \$4,103.06
Personal Services: . . . . .	\$24,600.00	
Transferred (Chapter 170, Acts of 1943) . . . . .	700.00	25,300.00    25,187.94
Expenses (Office)		8,100.00    7,306.72
Personal Services: Veterin- arians and Agents . . . . .	\$51,360.00	
Transferred (Chapter 170, Acts of 1943) . . . . .	5,000.00	56,360.00    53,418.66
Traveling Expenses: Veterin- arians and Agents		8,000.00    6,952.16
Extermination		3,560.00    3,347.57
Reimbursement for Certain Cattle Killed Under Test..	\$30,000.00	
Brought Forward from 1943 Appropriation. . . . .	7,857.41	37,857.41    27,019.74
Reimbursement to Towns for Inspectors of Animals		5,200.00    3,121.71
		\$148,737.41    \$130,457.56
Unexpended Balance		18,279.85
		\$148,737.41    \$148,737.41